

## Message Text

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FOL RPT REYKJAVIK 0980 ACTION SECSTATE INFO COMICEDEFOR  
CINCLANT COPENHAGEN LONDON OSLO NATO JUL 19

QUOTE: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE REYKJAVIK 0980

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EFIS, MARR, EC, IC  
SUBJ: NATO INVOLVMENT CLAIMED IN EC NEGOTIATIONS

1. IN IMPORTANT EDITORIAL IN PROGRESSIVE PARTY PAPER TIMINN  
JULY 18, TIMINN EDITOR AND ALTHING FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
CHAIRMAN HORARINN THORARINSSON, DISCUSSED PLANNED INFORMAL  
SOUNDINGS BETWEEN ICELAND AND EC SCHEDULED FOR LATER THIS  
MONTH. HE PUT THE NATO COUNTRIES CLEARLY ON NOTICE THAT THEY  
WILL BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR ASSURING AN OUTCOME OF NEGOTIA-  
TIONS WITH THE EC SATISFACTORY TO ICELAND. HE SAID,  
"AT THISSTAGE, WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT THE EC'S PROPOSALS  
WILL BE IN CONNECTION WITH THESE TALKS BUT WE CAN GUESS IT  
WILL INVOLVE REQUESTING SOME FISHING RIGHTS FOR THE BRI-  
TISH SINCE THE AGREEMENTS WITH THE WEST GERMANS AND THE  
BELGIANS WILL STILL BE IN EFFECT AFTER THE OSLO  
AGREEMENT WITH THE BRITISH EXPIRES.  
PROBABLY THE EC WILL OFFER SOME FISHING RIGHTS IN RETURN  
WITHIN THE JOINT FISHING JURISDICTION OF THE EC  
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COUNTRIES. BUT IT IS NOT KNOWN WHEN THAT JOINT FISHING

JURISDICTION WILL BE IN EFFECT. AND UNTIL SUCH TIME, WE CANNOT ENTER INTO ANY ACTUAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE EC OVER RECIPROCAL FISHING RIGHTS...ICELAND CANNOT GRANT FISHING RIGHTS BEYOND WHAT HAS ALREADY BEEN DONE. SOME MEMBERS OF THE EC HAVE THREATENED THAT THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 6 WILL BE REVOKED IF WE HAVE NOT REACHED AN AGREEMENT BY DECEMBER 1, WHEN THE OSLO AGREEMENT EXPIRES. ICELANDERS WOULD NOT ONLY LOOK ON THIS AS HOSTILITY BY THE EC BUT ALSO FROM NATO SINCE EIGHT OUT OF THE NINE MEMBERS OF THE EC ARE ALSO IN NATO. ICELAND WILL NOT YIELD IN A BUSINESS WAR ANY MORE THAN IN A COD WAR. WE SET FOR OURSELVES THE GOAL THAT WE WOULD NOT TALK WITH THE BRITISH WHILE THEY HAD MILITARY SHIPS HERE AND IT IS JUST AS LIKELY THAT WE WOULD NOT TALK WITH THE EC WHILE THEY USED TRADE COERCION OR THREATS OF TRADE COERCION. WE SINCERELY SAY TO ALL MEMBERS OF NATO THAT THEY MUST REALIZE THE FACT THAT ICELAND'S ECONOMY IS BASED ON THE COD FISH STOCK AND THERE ISN'T MUCH LEFT TO SHARE. WITHOUT EXPERIENCE IT, WE WILL NOT BELIEVE THAT THE POSITION OF THE EC WOULD NOT BE FORMED WITHOUT FULL UNDERSTANDING FOR OUR ECONOMIC POSITION."

2. WE BELIEVE THIS STATEMENT IS A SIGNIFICANT ONE AIMED AS MUCH AT THE UNITED STATES AS AT NATO OR ITS OTHER MEMBERS. THIS IS OPENING GUN IN CAMPAIGN TO PREVENT REVOCATION OF TARIFF CONCESSIONS TO ICELAND BY EC EVEN THOUGH ICELAND MAY REFUSE TO MAKE ANY FISHERIES AGREEMENTS BEYOND THOSE NOW IN EFFECT. MORE WILL BE HEARD ABOUT THE RESPONSIBILITY OF NATO IN THIS MATTER AND WE CAN EXPECT, AS TIME GOES ON, THAT WE WILL BE TOLD THAT RESPONSIBILITY DEVOLVES UPON THE UNITED STATES.

3. BOTH PRIVATELY AND IN THE PRESS OVER PERIOD SINCE OSLO SETTLEMENT, IT HAS BEEN STATED THAT "ICELAND DOES NOT ACCEPT" ANY CONTENTION THAT ARTICLE 6 TARIFF CONCESSIONS COULD BE REVOKED ONCE IMPLEMENTED. WHEN BOTH OFFICIALS AND PARTY LEADERS HAVE BEEN ASKED WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF EC DID REVOKE CONCESSIONS, ANSWER HAS ALMOST INVARIABLY BEEN, "THEN IT WILL BE BAD FOR NATO AND THE BASE." HAVING BEEN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SUCCESSFUL IN USING THIS KIND OF THREAT IN THREAT COD WARS, IT WOULD PERHAPS BE TOO MUCH TO EXPECT THAT IT WOULD NOT BE USED AGAIN.  
MARTIN

UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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NNN

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